

Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03

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R 262117Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY QUITO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6125

INFO AMCONSUL GUAYAQUIL

C O N F I D E N T I A L QUITO 4591

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV

SUBJECT: MORE MUSICAL CABINET CHAIRS?

REF: QUITO 4131

1. RUMORS AND AN OCCASIONAL FACT HAVE REVIVED SPECULATION THAT MORE CABINET CHANGES ARE IN THE OFFING.

2. THE ONE MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONED IS THE FOREIGN MINISTER. IT HAS BEEN AN OPEN SECRET FOR SOME TIME THAT LUCIO PAREDES WISHES TO LEAVE, AND HE RECENTLY TOLD A USUALLY RELIABLE SOURCE--MY WIFE--THAT HE WAS LEAVING. TIMING IS THOUGHT TO BE THIS SUMMER. SPECULATION ABOUT HIS SUCCESSOR CENTERS ON GENERAL CARLOS AGUIRRE ASANZA, SECRETARY GENERAL OF ADMINISTRATION; DR. LUIS VALANCIA RODRIGUEZ, AMBASSADOR TO PERU; AND AMBASSADOR ALFONSO BARRERA VALVERDE, NOW ASSIGNED IN BUENOS AIRES. LUCIO PAREDES' IMPENDING DEPARTURE IS ONE REASON WHY THE SUBSECRETARY JOB HAS ONLY BEEN FILLED ON AN ACTING BASIS: THE CHOICE OF A SUBSECRETARY IS OF COURSE RELATED TO THAT OF THE NEW FONMIN.

3. ANOTHER CHANGE, AND THIS ONE PROBABLY DUE MORE QUICKLY, IS IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOR AND SOCIAL WELFARE. MINISTER RAMIRO LARREA SANTO HAS COMMITTED HIS SHARE OF BOO-BOOS, CONFIDENTIAL
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THE MOST RECENT OF WHICH CAUGHT HIM OUT IN LEFT FIELD PRAISING THE PERUVIAN REVOLUTION (QUITO 3558). HIS

SUCCESSOR WILL MOST LIKELY BE ONE OF THE PRESENT SUB-SECRETARIES, COL. (AIR FORCE) FRANCISO AGUIRRE. AGUIRRE HAS CONFIRMED THIS TO A MEMBER OF THE MISSION.

4. IT ALSO FINALLY BEGINS TO LOOK AS IF MINISTER OF FINANCE JAIME MONCAYO'S LONG AMBITION TO BE AMBASSADOR TO THE UN IS SOON TO BE ACHIEVED. THE CURRENT FINANCIAL DIFFICULTIES IN WHICH ECUADOR FINDS ITSELF, COINCIDING PERHAPS WITH HIS DESIRE TO LEAVE, ARE EXPECTED TO RESULT IN HIS NOMINATION AS AMBASSADOR TO THE UNITED NATIONS. HIS MOST LIKELY SUCCESSOR IS COL. SOLON ESPINOSA AYALA, CURRENTLY CONTROLLER GENERAL.
BREWSTER

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